

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1 2 MIKE GLEASON Chairman Arizona Corporation Commission 3 WILLIAM A. MUNDELL DOCKETED Commissioner 4 JEFF HATCH-MILLER MAR 22 2007 Commissioner 5 KRISTIN K. MAYES DOCKETED BY Commissioner 6 **GARY PIERCE** Commissioner 7 8 DOCKET NO. T-03267A-06-0512 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MCLEODUSA TELECOM-69378 DECISION NO. MUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. TARIFF FILING TO INCREASE THE TANDEM **ORDER** 10 SWITCHED FACILITY RATE AND THE RETURNED CHECK CHARGE TO ABOVE 11 THE CURRENT MAXIMUM, AND 12 INCREASE THE MAXIMUM RATE 13 Open Meeting 14 March 13 and 14, 2007 Phoenix, Arizona 15 BY THE COMMISSION: 16 FINDINGS OF FACT 17 McLeodUSA Telecommunications Inc. ("McLeodUSA") is certificated to provide 1. 18 intrastate telecommunications service as a public service corporation in the State of Arizona. 19 On August 10, 2006, McLeodUSA filed revisions to its Access Service Tariff. In 2. 20 this filing, McLeodUSA is seeking current and maximum rate increases for its Tandem Switched 21 Facility and Returned Check charges. The proposed changes only apply to telecommunications 22 carriers. 23 On February 7, 2007, McLeodUSA submitted amended tariff pages: 3. 24 **ACCESS SERVICE** 25 Arizona Access Tariff No. 4, Sheet No. 1, First Revised Arizona Access Tariff No. 4, Sheet No. 29, First Revised 26 Arizona Access Tariff No. 4, Sheet No. 30, First Revised

Arizona Access Tariff No. 4, Sheet No. 71, Original

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- 4. The Tandem Switched Facility charge is the rate assessed for the communications path between the McLeodUSA switching office and a switching office of another carrier wherein the call is either transferred to or from the McLeodUSA network. McLeodUSA proposes to increase the maximum Tandem Switched Facility charge from \$0.00059 per minute/per mile to \$0.00300 per minute/per mile. The rate actually assessed would increase from \$0.00030 per minute/per mile to \$0.00190 per minute/per mile. McLeodUSA estimates that less than 50 customers may be impacted by the proposed increases. The proposed increases are expected to generate revenues well below 1 percent of McLeodUSA's total Arizona revenues.
- 5. The Returned Check charge, also commonly known as the Non-Sufficient Fund ("NSF") charge, is the rate assessed for each check submitted by a carrier to the Company which a financial institution refuses to honor. The current rate proposed is increasing from \$15.00 to \$50.00. The maximum rate proposed is increased from \$50.00 to \$55.00. No carrierrs were assessed NSF charges in 2006. The proposed increases are not expected to generate any revenue for McLeodUSA.
- 6. Customers impacted by the proposed increase have been notified that the proposed price changes will go into effect only upon approval by the Commission. An Affidavit of Notification associated with the customer notice has been provided to Staff.
- 7. Since this filing increases the maximum rate for a component of a service that has been classified as competitive under the Commission's Competitive Telecommunications Services Rules, Arizona Administrative Code R14-2-1110 applies to McLeodUSA's proposed tariff changes. Staff requested information from McLeodUSA to allow it to determine the potential effects of approval of the filing.
- 8. McLeodUSA provided evidence to Staff that it has provided customer notification in accordance with Commission rules. Staff has reviewed the customer notification provided and does agree that it is consistent with Commission rules.
- 9. The rates contained in this filing are for services that have been classified as competitive by the Commission and are now subject to the Commission's Competitive Telecommunications services rules. Under those rules, rates for competitive services are not set

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according to rate of return regulation standards. Staff obtained information regarding McLeodUSA's fair value rate base. Because of the nature of the competitive market and other factors, a fair value analysis is not necessarily representative of the company's operations. Therefore, while Staff considered the fair value rate base information of McLeodUSA, it did not accord that information substantial weight in its analysis of this matter.

10. Staff has recommended approval of this filing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. McLeodUSA Telecommunications Inc. ("McLeodUSA") is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over McLeodUSA and over the subject matter of the Application.
- 3. The Commission, having reviewed the tariff pages (copies of which are contained in the Commission's tariff files) and Staff's Memorandum dated February 27, 2007 includes the tariff, as amended, is reasonable, fair and equitable, and is therefore in the public interest.

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Decision No. 69378

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the tariff filing, as amended, be and hereby is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Tome vous Willelling	
CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER	

COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this day of warch, 2007.

BRIAN C. McNEIL Executive Director

DISSENT:

DISSENT:

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Decision No. 69378

Docket No. T-03267A-06-0512